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Investigative Summaries 2004

Disaster Benefit Applicant, New York, NY

On March 25, 2004, a New York woman was sentenced to 52 weeks of weekend confinement and ordered to pay \$255,000 in restitution, court costs and penalties for filing fraudulent Federal Emergency Management Agency claims following the September 2001 World Trade Center disaster. The woman previously pleaded guilty in Manhattan Supreme Court to Grand Larceny in connection with the fraudulent claims she submitted.



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Investigative Summaries 2004

Former INS Inspector Sentenced for Criminal Possession of a Loaded Weapon and Criminal Impersonation of a Public Servant

On March 1, 2004, a former Immigration and Naturalization inspector from New York was sentenced to five years of supervised probation for falsely identifying himself to New York Police Department officers as an INS inspector when they responded to a June 2003 domestic dispute in which he apparently displayed a loaded handgun. A weapon and INS identification were confiscated when the former inspector was arrested after it was determined that his employment with INS was terminated in 1997.

New York Man Sentenced for FEMA Fraud

A New York man pleaded guilty to grand larceny and was sentenced to six months in jail for submitting a fraudulent claim to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) following the September 2001 World Trade Center disaster. Prior to sentencing, he made full restitution of the \$65,000 that he received by fraudulently claiming that he lost part of his salary because of the economic downturn after the disaster.



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Allegations Against An Unknown Employee Unsubstantiated

An OIG investigation did not substantiate allegations that an unknown employee of the U.S. Bureau of Customs and Border Protection accepted bribes in return for providing green cards to two men who illegally entered the United States. The investigation determined that both men were granted political asylum in the United States, and their applications were appropriately processed and subjected to multiple levels of review.

New York Man Sentenced for FEMA Fraud

On September 23, 2003, a New York man was sentenced in New York State Criminal Court to five days of community service for filing a fraudulent FEMA Mortgage and Rental Assistance claim following the September 2001 World Trade Center attack. The man pleaded guilty to one count of larceny in connection with the fraudulent claims he submitted.



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New York Couple Sentenced for FEMA Fraud

A New York man and woman were sentenced in Manhattan District Court to serve terms of imprisonment for filing fraudulent FEMA claims following the September 2001 World Trade Center attack. The man was sentenced to one-year of imprisonment and the woman was sentenced to a term of imprisonment lasting between two to six years. Both individuals were previously convicted of larceny, a scheme to defraud and falsifying business records.

New York Woman Sentenced for FEMA Fraud

On March 12, 2004, a New York woman was sentenced in New York County Criminal Court to a conditional discharge and was ordered to make restitution in the amount of \$3,442 for filing fraudulent FEMA claims for lost wages following the September 2001 World Trade Center attack. The woman previously pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor larceny charge in connection with the fraudulent claims she submitted.



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New York Man Sentenced for FEMA Fraud

A New York man was sentenced to one and a half to three years of imprisonment for filing fraudulent FEMA claims following the September 2001 World Trade Center disaster. The man previously pleaded guilty to a grand larceny charge in connection with the fraudulent claims he submitted.

New York Woman Sentenced for FEMA Fraud

A New York woman was sentenced to six months imprisonment and three months probation for providing false statements to the FEMA and various relief agencies to obtain disaster assistance benefits following the September 2001 World Trade Center attack. The woman pleaded guilty to one count of grand larceny in connection with the fraudulent documents she submitted.



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Former INS Inspector Sentenced for Criminal Possession of a Loaded Weapon and Criminal Impersonation of a Public Servant

On March 1, 2004, a former Immigration and Naturalization inspector from New York was sentenced to five years of supervised probation for falsely identifying himself to New York Police Department officers as an INS inspector when they responded to a June 2003 domestic dispute in which he apparently displayed a loaded handgun. A weapon and INS identification were confiscated when the former inspector was arrested after it was determined that his employment with INS was terminated in 1997.

New York Man Sentenced for FEMA Fraud

A New York man pleaded guilty to grand larceny and was sentenced to six months in jail for submitting a fraudulent claim to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) following the September 2001 World Trade Center disaster. Prior to sentencing, he made full restitution of the \$65,000 that he received by fraudulently claiming that he lost part of his salary because of the economic downturn after the disaster.



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9-1-1 Operator Sentenced for 9/11 Fraud

On December 8, 2003, a New York City Police Department (NYPD) employee pleaded guilty to grand larceny for submitting fraudulent claims documents to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and receiving \$9,366.45 in Mortgage and Rental Assistance (MRA) benefits to which she was not entitled. She forged a medical document to support her fraudulent claim that she was unable to work as a result of the stress of being a 9-1-1 operator for the emergency crews that responded to the World Trade Center disaster. She was sentenced to three years probation and directed to make full restitution to FEMA.

Woman Imprisoned for Defrauding FEMA

A disaster benefit applicant of New York, NY, pleaded guilty to one count of grand larceny and was sentenced to six months prison and three years probation for submitting fraudulent claims documents to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and various other relief agencies following the 2001 World Trade Center disaster.



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Woman Imprisoned and Ordered to pay \$255,000 in Restitution for FEMA Fraud

On March 25, 2004, disaster grant applicant from New York, NY, was sentenced to 52 weekends of confinement for filing false claims for receipt of Federal Emergency Management Agency funds subsequent to the attack on the World Trade Center in September 2001. She was also ordered to pay approximately \$255,000 in restitution, court costs and fines.

School Crossing Guard Charged with Larceny for Filing False Claim with FEMA

On February 27, 2004, a disaster benefit applicant pleaded guilty to larceny and was directed to pay \$ 3,442 in restitution to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for filing fraudulent benefit claims following the World Trade Center (WTC) disaster. She claimed that she lost part of her salary as a school crossing guard with the City of New York because of the WTC disaster. However, our investigation found that she was paid her full salary even though she remained at home for several days after September 11, 2001.